

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

1. (Original) Material for wear, erosion and corrosion resistant coatings, consisting of tungsten carbide alloyed with fluorine in amounts ranging from 0.0005 to 0.5 wt%.
2. (Original) Material in accordance with claim 1, wherein the said material is tungsten monocarbide WC alloyed with fluorine in amounts ranging from 0.0005 to 0.5 wt%.
3. (Original) Material in accordance with claim 1, wherein the said material is tungsten semicarbide W_2C alloyed with fluorine in amounts ranging from 0.0005 to 0.5 wt%.
4. (Original) Material in accordance with claim 1, wherein the said material is tungsten subcarbide W_3C alloyed with fluorine in amounts ranging from 0.0005 to 0.5 wt%.
5. (Original) Material in accordance with claim 1, wherein the said material is tungsten subcarbide $W_{12}C$ alloyed with fluorine in amounts ranging from 0.0005 to 0.5 wt%.
6. (Original) Material in accordance with claim 1, wherein the said material additionally contains fluorocarbon compositions with carbon content up to 15 wt% and fluorine content up to 0.5 wt%.
7. (Withdrawn)
8. (Previously Amended) Coating, characterized in that it contains:
 - an internal layer consisting of tungsten deposited on a substrate;
 - and an external layer deposited on the said internal layer and containing tungsten carbide in accordance with claim 1.
9. (Previously Amended) Coating in accordance with claim 6, characterized in that its outer layer additionally contains a mixture of at least two tungsten carbides alloyed with fluorine in amounts ranging from 0.0005 to 0.5 wt% and possible with fluorocarbon compositions with carbon content up to 15 wt% and fluorine content up to 0.5 wt%.

10. (Previously Amended) Coating in accordance with claim 8, characterized in that its outer layer additionally contains tungsten.

11. (Previously Amended) Coating in accordance with claim 8, characterized in that its outer layer additionally contains carbon.

12. (Previously Amended) Coating in accordance with any of claim 8, characterized in that its internal layer has a thickness of 0.5-300 μm and its outer layer has a thickness of 0.5-300 μm , with the ratio of thicknesses of the internal and external layers ranging from 1:1 to 1:600.

13. (Previously Amended) Process for producing tungsten carbides by chemical vapour deposition on a heated substrate using a mixture of gases including tungsten hexafluoride, hydrogen, a carbon-containing gas and, optionally, an inert gas, characterized in that the carbon-containing gas is thermally activated beforehand by heating to temperature 500-850°C.

14. (Previously Amended) Process in accordance with claim 13, characterized in that the said carbon-containing gas is propane.

15. (Previously Amended) Process in accordance with claim 13, characterized in that it is performed at a pressure of 2-150 kPa, substrate temperature 400-900°C, ratio of carbon-containing gas to hydrogen 0.2-1.7 and ratio of tungsten hexafluoride to hydrogen 0.02-0.12.

16. (Previously Amended) Process in accordance with claim 15, characterized in that it is performed at a ratio of carbon-containing gas to hydrogen 1.0-1.5 and ratio of tungsten hexafluoride to hydrogen 0.08-0.10, and that the carbon-containing gas is heated beforehand to temperature 750-850°C; in this case, tungsten monocarbide WC is obtained.

17. (Previously Amended) Process in accordance with claim 15, characterized in that it is performed at a ratio of carbon-containing gas to hydrogen 0.75-0.90 and ratio of tungsten hexafluoride to hydrogen 0.06-0.08, and that the carbon-containing gas is heated beforehand to temperature 600-750°C; in this case, tungsten semicarbide W_2C is obtained.

18. (Previously Amended) Process in accordance with claim 15, characterized in that it is performed at a ratio of carbon-containing gas to hydrogen 0.60-0.65 and ratio of tungsten hexafluoride to hydrogen 0.05-0.55, and that the carbon-containing gas is heated beforehand to temperature 560-720°C; in this case, tungsten subcarbide W_3C is obtained.

19. (Previously Amended) Process in accordance with claim 15, characterized in that it is performed at a ratio of carbon-containing gas to hydrogen 0.35-0.45 and ratio of tungsten hexafluoride to hydrogen 0.040-0.045, and that the carbon-containing gas is heated beforehand to temperature 500-700°C; in this case, tungsten subcarbide $W_{12}C$ is obtained.

20. (Previously Amended) Process in accordance with claim 15, characterized in that it is performed at a ratio of carbon-containing gas to hydrogen 0.90-1.00 and ratio of tungsten hexafluoride to hydrogen 0.07-0.09, and that the carbon-containing gas is heated beforehand to temperature 670-790°C; in this case, a mixture of the carbides WC and W_2C is obtained.

21. (Previously Amended) Process in accordance with claim 15, characterized in that it is performed at a ratio of carbon-containing gas to hydrogen 0.70-0.75 and ratio of tungsten hexafluoride to hydrogen 0.055-0.060, and that the carbon-containing gas is heated beforehand to temperature 580-730°C; in this case, a mixture of the carbides W_2C and W_3C is obtained.

22. (Previously Amended) Process in accordance with claim 15, characterized in that it is performed at a ratio of carbon-containing gas to hydrogen 0.60-0.65 and ratio of tungsten hexafluoride to hydrogen 0.045-0.060, and that the carbon-containing gas is heated beforehand to temperature 570-700°C; in this case, a mixture of the carbides W_2C and $W_{12}C$ is obtained.

23. (Previously Amended) Process in accordance with claim 15, characterized in that it is performed at a ratio of carbon-containing gas to hydrogen 0.45-0.60 and ratio of tungsten hexafluoride to hydrogen 0.045-0.050, and that the carbon-containing gas is heated beforehand to temperature 550-680°C; in this case, a mixture of the carbides W_3C and $W_{12}C$ is obtained.

24. (Previously Amended) Process in accordance with claim 15, characterized in that it is performed at a ratio of carbon-containing gas to hydrogen 0.65-0.70 and ratio of tungsten hexafluoride to hydrogen 0.045-0.060, and that the carbon-containing gas is heated beforehand to temperature 570-710°C; in this case, a mixture of the carbides W_2C , W_3C and $W_{12}C$ is obtained.

25. (Previously Amended) Process in accordance with claim 15, characterized in that it is performed at a ratio of carbon-containing gas to hydrogen 0.70-0.90 and ratio of tungsten hexafluoride to hydrogen 0.08-0.09, and that the carbon-containing gas is heated beforehand to temperature 600-720°C; in this case, a mixture of the carbide WC and tungsten is obtained.

26. (Previously Amended) Process in accordance with claim 15, characterized in that it is performed at a ratio of carbon-containing gas to hydrogen 0.70-0.90 and ratio of tungsten hexafluoride to hydrogen 0.08-0.09, and that the carbon-containing gas is heated beforehand to temperature 600-720°C; in this case, a mixture of the carbides W_2C and tungsten is obtained.

27. (Previously Amended) Process in accordance with claim 15, characterized in that it is performed at a ratio of carbon-containing gas to hydrogen 0.60-0.65 and ratio of tungsten hexafluoride to hydrogen 0.055-0.070, and that the carbon-containing gas is heated beforehand to temperature 560-700°C; in this case, a mixture of the carbide W_3C and tungsten is obtained.

28. (Previously Amended) Process in accordance with claim 15, characterized in that it is performed at a ratio of carbon-containing gas to hydrogen 0.20-0.35 and ratio of tungsten hexafluoride to hydrogen 0.045-0.070, and that the carbon-containing gas is heated beforehand to temperature 500-680°C; in this case, a mixture of the carbide $W_{12}C$ and tungsten is obtained.

29. (Previously Amended) Process in accordance with claim 15, characterized in that it is performed at a ratio of carbon-containing gas to hydrogen 0.35-0.60 and ratio of tungsten hexafluoride to hydrogen 0.05-0.07, and that the carbon-containing gas is heated beforehand to temperature 500-680°C; in this case, a mixture of the carbides W_3C , $W_{12}C$ and tungsten is obtained.

30. (Previously Amended) Process in accordance with claim 15, characterized in that it is performed at a ratio of carbon-containing gas to hydrogen 1.50-1.70 and ratio of tungsten hexafluoride to hydrogen 0.10-0.12, and that the carbon-containing gas is heated beforehand to temperature 750-850°C; in this case, a mixture of the carbide WC and carbon is obtained.

31-66. (Withdrawn)

67. (Twice Amended) Multilayer coating made from alternating layers of tungsten and layers containing tungsten carbide in accordance with claim 1.

68. (Withdrawn)

69. (Twice Amended) Multilayer coating in accordance with claim 67, characterized in that the thickness of its individual layers ranges from 2 to 10 μm and the ratio of the thicknesses of the alternating layers ranges from 1:1 to 1:5.

70-89. (Withdrawn)

90. (New) Material for wear, erosion and corrosion resistant coatings, consisting of tungsten carbide alloyed with fluorine in amounts ranging from 0.0005 to 0.5 wt%, wherein the material is deposited on a heated substrate by way of chemical vapour deposition in a chemical vapour deposition reactor using a mixture of gases including tungsten hexafluoride, hydrogen, a carbon-containing gas and, optionally, an inert gas, and wherein the carbon-containing gas is heated to a temperature of 500 to 850°C prior to being supplied to the reactor.

91. (New) Material in accordance with claim 90, wherein the said material is tungsten monocarbide WC alloyed with fluorine in amounts ranging from 0.0005 to 0.5 wt%.

92. (New) Material in accordance with claim 90, wherein the said material is tungsten semicarbide W_2C alloyed with fluorine in amounts ranging from 0.0005 to 0.5 wt%.

93. (New) Material in accordance with claim 90, wherein the said material is tungsten subcarbide W_3C alloyed with fluorine in amounts ranging from 0.0005 to 0.5 wt%.

94. (New) Material in accordance with claim 90, wherein the said material is tungsten subcarbide $W_{12}C$ alloyed with fluorine in amounts ranging from 0.0005 to 0.5 wt%.

95. (New) Material in accordance with claim 90, wherein the said material additionally contains fluorocarbon compositions with carbon content up to 15 wt% and fluorine content up to 0.5 wt%.

96. (New) Material for wear, erosion and corrosion resistant coatings comprising a mixture of at least two tungsten carbides alloyed with fluorine in amounts ranging from 0.0005 to 0.5 wt% and optionally with fluorocarbon compositions with carbon content up to 15 wt% and fluorine content up to 0.5 wt%, wherein the material is deposited on a heated substrate by way of chemical vapour deposition in a chemical vapour deposition reactor using a mixture of gases including tungsten hexafluoride, hydrogen, a carbon-containing gas and, optionally, an inert gas, and wherein the carbon-containing gas is heated to a temperature of 500 to 850°C prior to being supplied to the reactor.

97. (New) Coating, characterised in that it contains:

- an internal layer consisting of tungsten deposited on a substrate;
- and an external layer deposited on the said internal layer and containing tungsten carbide material in accordance with claim 1.

98. (New) Coating in accordance with claim 97, wherein the external layer additionally contains a mixture of at least two tungsten carbides alloyed with fluorine in amounts ranging from 0.0005 to 0.5 wt% and optionally with fluorocarbon compositions with carbon content up to 15 wt% and fluorine content up to 0.5 wt%.

99. (New) Coating in accordance with claim 97, wherein the external layer additionally contains tungsten.

100. (New) Coating in accordance with claim 97, wherein the external layer additionally contains carbon.

101. (New) Coating in accordance with claim 97, wherein the internal layer has a thickness of 0.5-300 μm and the external layer has a thickness of 0.5-300 μm , with the ratio of thicknesses of the internal and external layers ranging from 1:1 to 1:600.

102. (New) Process for producing tungsten carbides in a chemical vapour deposition reactor by chemical vapour deposition on a heated substrate using a mixture of gases including tungsten hexafluoride, hydrogen, a carbon-containing gas and, optionally, an inert gas, wherein the carbon-containing gas is thermally activated before being supplied to the reactor by heating to a temperature of 500-850°C, and wherein fluorine is alloyed with the tungsten carbides in amounts ranging from 0.0005 to 0.5 wt%.

103. (New) Process in accordance with claim 102, wherein the said carbon-containing gas is propane.

104. Process in accordance with claims 102, wherein the process is performed at a pressure of 2-150 kPa, a substrate temperature of 400-900°C, a ratio of carbon-containing gas to hydrogen of 0.2-1.7 and a ratio of tungsten hexafluoride to hydrogen of 0.02-0.12.

105. (New) Process in accordance with claim 104, wherein the process is performed at a ratio of carbon-containing gas to hydrogen of 1.0-1.5 and a ratio of tungsten hexafluoride to hydrogen of 0.08-0.10, and wherein the carbon-containing gas is heated to a temperature of 750-850°C before being supplied to the reactor, and wherein tungsten monocarbide WC is obtained.

106. (New) Process in accordance with claim 104, wherein the process is performed at a ratio of carbon-containing gas to hydrogen of 0.75-0.90 and a ratio of tungsten hexafluoride to hydrogen of 0.06-0.08, and wherein the carbon-containing gas is heated to a temperature of 600-750°C before being supplied to the reactor, and wherein tungsten semicarbide W_2C is obtained.

107. (New) Process in accordance with claim 104, wherein the process is performed at a ratio of carbon-containing gas to hydrogen of 0.60-0.65 and a ratio of tungsten hexafluoride to hydrogen of 0.05-0.55, and wherein the carbon-containing gas is heated to a temperature of 560-720°C before being supplied to the reactor, and wherein tungsten subcarbide W_3C is obtained.

108. (New) Process in accordance with claim 104, wherein the process is performed at a ratio of carbon-containing gas to hydrogen of 0.35-0.45 and a ratio of tungsten hexafluoride to hydrogen of 0.040-0.045, and wherein the carbon-containing gas is heated to a temperature of 500-700°C before being supplied to the reactor, and wherein tungsten subcarbide $W_{12}C$ is obtained.

109. (New) Process in accordance with claim 104, wherein the process is performed at a ratio of carbon-containing gas to hydrogen of 0.90-1.00 and a ratio of tungsten hexafluoride to hydrogen of 0.07-0.09, and wherein the carbon-containing gas is heated to a temperature of 670-790°C before being supplied to the reactor, and wherein a mixture of the carbides WC and W_2C is obtained.

110. (New) Process in accordance with claim 104, wherein the process is performed at a ratio of carbon-containing gas to hydrogen of 0.70-0.75 and a ratio of tungsten hexafluoride to hydrogen of 0.055-0.060, and wherein the carbon-containing gas is heated to a temperature of 580-730°C before being supplied to the reactor, and wherein a mixture of the carbides W_2C and W_3C is obtained.

111. (New) Process in accordance with claim 104, wherein the process is performed at a ratio of carbon-containing gas to hydrogen of 0.60-0.65 and a ratio of tungsten hexafluoride to hydrogen of 0.045-0.060, and wherein the carbon-containing gas is heated to a temperature of 570-700°C before being supplied to the reactor, and wherein a mixture of the carbides W_2C and $W_{12}C$ is obtained.

112. (New) Process in accordance with claim 104, wherein the process is performed at a ratio of carbon-containing gas to hydrogen of 0.45-0.60 and a ratio of tungsten hexafluoride to hydrogen of 0.045-0.050, and wherein the carbon-containing gas is heated to a temperature of 550-680°C before being supplied to the reactor, and wherein a mixture of the carbides W_3C and $W_{12}C$ is obtained.

113. (New) Process in accordance with claim 104, wherein the process is performed at a ratio of carbon-containing gas to hydrogen of 0.65-0.70 and a ratio of tungsten hexafluoride to hydrogen of 0.045-0.060, and wherein the carbon-containing gas is heated to a temperature of 570-710°C before being supplied to the reactor, and wherein a mixture of the carbides W_2C , W_3C and $W_{12}C$ is obtained.

114. (New) Process in accordance with claim 104, wherein the process is performed at a ratio of carbon-containing gas to hydrogen of 0.70-0.90 and a ratio of tungsten hexafluoride to hydrogen of 0.08-0.09, and wherein the carbon-containing gas is heated to a temperature of 600-720°C before being supplied to the reactor, and wherein a mixture of the carbide WC and tungsten is obtained.

115. (New) Process in accordance with claim 104, wherein the process is performed at a ratio of carbon-containing gas to hydrogen of 0.70-0.90 and a ratio of tungsten hexafluoride to hydrogen of 0.08-0.09, and wherein the carbon-containing gas is heated to a temperature 600-720°C before being supplied to the reactor, and wherein a mixture of the carbides W_2C and tungsten is obtained.

116. (New) Process in accordance with claim 104, wherein the process is performed at a ratio of carbon-containing gas to hydrogen of 0.60-0.65 and a ratio of tungsten hexafluoride to hydrogen of 0.055-0.070, and wherein the carbon-containing gas is heated to a temperature of 560-700°C before being supplied to the reactor, and wherein a mixture of the carbide W_3C and tungsten is obtained.

117. (New) Process in accordance with claim 104, wherein the process is performed at a ratio of carbon-containing gas to hydrogen of 0.20-0.35 and a ratio of tungsten hexafluoride to hydrogen of 0.045-0.070, and wherein the carbon-containing gas is heated to a temperature of 500-680°C before being supplied to the reactor, and wherein a mixture of the carbide $W_{12}C$ and tungsten is obtained.

118. (New) Process in accordance with claim 104, wherein the process is performed at a ratio of carbon-containing gas to hydrogen of 0.35-0.60 and a ratio of tungsten hexafluoride to hydrogen of 0.05-0.07, and wherein the carbon-containing gas is heated to a temperature of 500-680°C before being supplied to the reactor, and wherein a mixture of the carbides W_3C , $W_{12}C$ and tungsten is obtained.

119. (New) Process in accordance with claim 104, wherein the process is performed at a ratio of carbon-containing gas to hydrogen of 1.50-1.70 and a ratio of tungsten hexafluoride to hydrogen of 0.10-0.12, and wherein the carbon-containing gas is heated to a temperature of 750-850°C before being supplied to the reactor, and wherein a mixture of the carbide WC and carbon is obtained.

120. (New) Material for wear, erosion and corrosion resistant coatings, the material including tungsten carbide alloyed with fluorine in amounts ranging from 0.0005 to 0.5 wt%, and having a microhardness of at least 3100kg/mm².

121. (New) Material as claimed in claim 120, having a microhardness of at least 3400kg/mm².
122. (New) Material as claimed in claim 120, having a microhardness of at least 3500kg/mm².